THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) and (b) The Governing body of the colleges are empowered for sanctioning leave to the teachers as well as to run day to day administration of respective colleges. The Delhi University had informed that the Delhi University Students Union (DUSU) communicated the names of teachers who have not completed their courses in some colleges. The University is in the process of forwarding the names of such teachers to the respective colleges for appropriate action.

Award to Magician P.C. Sarkar

1958. SHRI E. BALANANDAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the magician P.C. Sarkar Junior has recently been conferred, Merlin Award, a recognition for the greatest magician in the world, given by the International Magician Society;

(b) whether Government had ever given any ward to the great magician and his father, P.C. Sarkar (Sr.), as a recognition for their achievement; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) to (c) Government is not associated with the conferment of Merlin award to the Magicians. However, Shri Pratul Chandra Sorcar (Senior), Magician, born in 1913 in West Bengal was awarded Padma Shri in the year 1964 in the field of Arts.

Changes in the text books of Uttar Pradesh

1959. SHRI NILOTPAL BASU:
SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that certain school text books in Uttar Pradesh have undergone changes where those killed during the course of destruction of Babri Masjid on December 6, 1992; have been described as MARTYRS: and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the response of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) U.P. Government has informed that Text Books approved by their Department of Basic and Secondary Education do not contain any such reference.

(b) Does not arise.

Setting up of Self Financing Autonomous Colleges

1960. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that sometime back, a special task force was constituted by the Human Resource Development (HRD) Ministry to examine, inter alia, the question of setting up high quality and self financing autonomous colleges and Institutes, which could be authorised to award their own degrees;

(b) if so, whether the Task Force has since submitted its report to Government; and

(c) if so, the major recommendations thereof and by when a decision is likely to be taken in the matter?